

[English]

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MoU with France

232. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether any Memorandum of Understanding has been signed between India and France to promote tourism; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

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Accident at Kanpur Cantt.

233. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is aware of the fact that a Archana Airways met with accident on May 18, 1996 at Civil Aerodrome, Kanpur Cantt;

(b) if so, whether any enquiry was constituted in the matter so far;

(c) if so, result thereof and the action taken thereon; and

(d) If not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). The accident is under investigation by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation.

[Translation]

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Services of ITDC Employees

234. SHRI MUNAWWAR HASSAN : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that even after 6-7 years of service the employees of Indian Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC) have not been regularised;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which such employees are proposed to be regularised?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : (a) to (c). Presently, there are 23 employees working on temporary/ad-hoc basis in ITDC for more than five years. These employees working on ad-hoc

basis are engaged in temporary jobs like utility workers, halwai, waiters, etc. or against contractual activities. These employees could not be regularised so far mainly for want of regular/sanctioned vacancies, regularisation of contractual activities and settlement of court cases. In view of these, it is not possible to have a definite time target for regularising these employees.

[English]

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Air India Cargo Losses

235. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Air India has continuously suffered in the cargo traffic sector resulting in substantial losses;

(b) if so, the percentage of decline in the Air India cargo traffic during 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96, so far, and the comparative loss suffered by the airlines as a consequence thereof;

(c) the reasons for the decline in the cargo traffic; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) No, Sir. The cargo revenue earned by Air India has shown a continuous growth over the past few years.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

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Misuse of funds of Short Films

236. SHRI R.L.P. VERMA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of budget fixed for royalty programmes (for short films) by Doordarshan for the year 1996-97;

(b) whether above amount has been misutilised and two English films have been purchased out of the funds earmarked for short films are reported in the "Dainik Jagaran" dated May 29, 1996;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government against the officers found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.